

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 06305 181818Z

ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W

-----181819Z 126176 /53

P R 181606Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4051

INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS ROME 6305

FOR: STATE CU/WE

USIA IEU AND ICS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, IT

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT TO AMERICAN GROUP

1. EFFORTS UNDERWAY TO REVITALIZE THE ROME QUADRIENNALE, IN THE DOLDRUMS FOR SOME YEARS, HAVE THE FULL SUPPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS AND WE BELIEVE THIS YEAR'S EVENT WILL BE EVENT OF UNUSUALLY HIGH IMPACT, IN ROME AND NATIONALLY. A COMMITTEE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ART WORLD HAS CHOSEN 175 PARTICIPANTS FROM 38 COUNTRIES ALL OVER THE WORLD UNDER THE THEME: FOREIGN ARTISTS WHO HAVE LIVED AND WORKED IN ITALY. THE NUMBER OF AMERICANS CHOSEN STANDS NEAR TWENTY, THE LARGEST REPRESENTATION. BETTING IS THAT THE U.S. GROUP WILL BE THE MAJOR ARTISTIC VALUE OF THE SHOW.

2. AMONG THOSE CHOSEN IS THE SUPERB BLACK ARTIST JOHN DOWELL, WHO LIVED HERE FOR YEARS WHILE TEACHING AT TEMPLE UNIVERSITY'S TYLER SCHOOL. NOW BACK IN PHILADELPHIA, DOWELL HAS BEEN WORKING ON A NEW CONCEPT WITH TWO OR THREE MUSICIANS COMBINING MUSIC AND ART. THE QUADRIENNALE HAS LEARNED OF THIS, IS EAGER TO BRING DOWELL AND HIS GROUP AND HAS ASKED OUR HELP.

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3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE MAIN OBSTACLE IS TRAVEL FUNDS, SINCE THE QUADRIENNALE CAN HANDLE LOCAL EXPENSES. WE BELIEVE THAT THE IMPACT OF THIS GROUP, WHICH WOULD BE THE ONLY LIVE ELEMENT IN THE SHOW, WOULD BE HIGH AND WOULD STRENGTHEN THE AMERICAN CONTRIBUTION IN IMPORTANT AND DRAMATIC WAYS.

4. REQUEST CONTACT DOWELL, CHAIRMAN GRAPHICS DEPARTMENT,

TYLER SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, PHILADELPHIA, TO ASCERTAIN GROUP'S  
SIZE, AVAILABILITY IN LATE MAY AND EARLY JUNE, VIEW POSSIBILITY  
AM SPECIALIST GRANTS, TRAVEL ONLY. SUGGEST THAT EVALUATION OF  
GROUP BE MADE IN VIEW POSSIBLE INTEREST IN OTHER EUROPEAN  
POSTS, BUT IN ANY CASE WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN TOURING THEM  
TO OTHER CITIES IN ITALY. FOR THIS REASON REQUEST ASCERTAIN  
COSTS FOR PROGRAMMING OUTSIDE ROME. SUGGEST PER DIEM ONLY.  
ADVISE GARDNER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, ARTISTS, EXHIBITS  
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**TAGS:** SCUL, IT, US, (DOWELL, JOHN)  
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